

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4912
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007
CATERING SERVICE
Meghwal Shri Kailash

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the railway catering service is incurring losses;
- (b) if so, the details of losses incurred during the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken to make railway catering service profitable?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The latest accountal of catering earnings and losses is available for the year 2004-05 only. The loss in catering services of Indian Railways for 2004-05 was Rs. 461.79 Crores.

(c): The following steps have been taken to improve catering services on Indian Railways and to maximize the earnings therefrom: -

(i) transfer of catering services along with staff of departmental catering of Railways to Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), which will run the services professionally;

(ii) allotment of catering contracts by IRCTC through tender system;

iii) process is on to commission new and modern catering units like, Automatic Vending Machines, Water Vending Machines, Food Plazas, Fast Food Centers, Milk Stalls which will offer a range of eatables/ beverages to railway customers and earn additional revenue for Railways;